

## 2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 45

Offered March 7, 2022

*Commending the Reverend Michelle C. Thomas.*

Patron—Bell

WHEREAS, for 15 years, the Reverend Michelle C. Thomas has worked diligently to serve and empower residents of Loudoun County as the founding pastor of Holy & Whole Life Changing Ministries International; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Michelle Thomas established Holy & Whole Life Changing Ministries International in Lansdowne; it was the first church in Loudoun County founded by a Black woman and has since helped countless members grow in faith and learn to better serve their community; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Thomas and Holy & Whole Life Changing Ministries International created the Freedom Technology Group and the Northern Virginia Datacenter Academy to provide training programs, workforce development opportunities, and experiential education to help members of underrepresented communities pursue careers in high-technology fields; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Thomas guided the Northern Virginia Datacenter Academy to seek a partnership with Microsoft, and the program has made significant contributions to economic and educational equity in Loudoun County; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Michelle Thomas gave an invocation for President Barack Obama at Loudoun Valley High School after his historic election; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Thomas has also served the community and protected the Commonwealth's valuable natural resources as the first Black woman elected to the Loudoun County Soil and Water Conservation District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Reverend Michelle C. Thomas hereby be commended for her 15 years of leadership as pastor of Holy & Whole Life Changing Ministries International; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Michelle C. Thomas as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for her contributions to the Loudoun County community.

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